



# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Vol 21

Vol. 20, No. 1

February, 1978

## Isaac Mickle as Revealed Through His Diary

"A gentleman of much promise cut off in the prime of life," was the brief description of Isaac Mickle published in the *Camden Mail* at the time of his death in 1855. In his short lifetime of 33 years, Isaac Mickle had demonstrated considerable skill as lawyer, historian, politician, editor, translator and diarist but did indeed merit the terse, sad summary "a gentleman of much promise."

Isaac, the only son of Isaac and Rebecca Morgan Mickle, was born at "Walnut Grove," one of the several farmsteads included among the Mickle family land holdings, which extended from the Delaware River east to Cooper's Creek and from Little Newton Creek (near today's Jackson Street in Camden) south to Newton Creek. During his first year, Isaac's father, just 32 years of age, died of tuberculosis. His mother moved shortly after to the home of her brother-in-law Capt. John W. Mickle, who, it is chronicled, gave up the sea to attend the education of his nephew.

Through his mother's own interest, Isaac developed a love of reading, and by age 12 had a personal library of more than 100 books. His formal education began at age 6, with private tutors at home, and was continued in a series of schools in Franklin Park, Philadelphia,

Camden and Burlington. His letters reflect pride in his academic accomplishments and a developing awareness of politics — an interest which was to continue throughout his life.

(continued on page 4)

### CANDLELIGHT DINNER

**Date:** Tuesday, February 21, 1978  
**Time:** Punch Party — 6:30 P.M.  
Dinner — 7:00 P.M., promptly  
**Place:** Haddon Fortnightly Club-house  
**Caterer:** D. F. McCallister & Sons  
**Reservations:** Please mail check \$11.00 per person, payable to **Historical Society of Haddonfield**, to:  
Mrs. Richard Carll  
667 Euclid Avenue  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033  
Phone: 429-3117

**Reservations must be made by February 16, 1978.**

Your reservation will be held at the dinner.

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATES FOR 1978 . . .

Shake off the winter doldrums and plan to attend the two festive events on the Society's February calendar — the Candlelight Dinner on the 21st and the Spring Tea on the 28th.

On May 16th, Bob Teitelmann will share experiences gathered on a recent World Affairs Council trip to China. This highly informative account will be accompanied by spectacular slides, an opportunity none of our members will want to miss!!!

Plans are under way for the 1978 Country Fair and Auction to be held on Saturday, June 3rd. The always-busy Woman's Committee has several new ideas for this year's fair. Many helping hands are needed.

An earlier date (hopefully, with more comfortable weather), June 17th, is scheduled for the Annual Picnic. An account of recent history — the Story of the Hi-Speed Line — will be given by its author, Marion Tatem.

The Fall Meeting on Tuesday, September 19th, will appropriately usher in the the autumn season with a program on the Pine Barrens by Elizabeth Woodford.

The 1978 Candlelight Tour is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, October 15th. Perhaps a daylight tour, enabling tour participants to move more freely, will encourage increased attendance.

The Annual Meeting on Tuesday, November 14th — a week earlier than our traditional date to avoid Thanksgiving. Program plans are pending.

As the grande finale, a brand-new project, the brain-child of Edith Atkin-

son, A Colonial Craft Shop, featuring decorative items for Christmas in the best Williamsburg tradition, will be open on Sunday, December 9th, from 2:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Needless to say the Woman's Committee — both the Morning Group (which meets at 10:00 A.M. on the fourth Tuesday of each month), as well as the Evening Group (which meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:00 P.M.) are eager to have new members and extend a warm welcome to the entire community.

A Happy New Year to All!

CAROLINE MOODY

### THE HISTORIC RESEARCH FUND WILL BENEFIT

The Historical Society has recently received a most outstanding gift from Mr. and Mrs. John G. Ries.

For some time Mr. Ries's company has been reproducing the two maps which the Society has for sale. One, a lithograph of an aerial view made in 1899, shows the houses in Haddonfield at that time. The other, compiled by Jesse G. Haydock, Jr., and Joseph N. Hartel from earlier maps and various manuscript sources, pictures the town in 1875 and represents a contribution made by the Society in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough in 1975.

Since Mr. Ries has now sold the company, he and Mrs. Ries presented the remaining copies of the two maps to the Society — 39 of the 1899 map and 72 of the map of 1875.

The gift is especially appreciated as an expression of the interest Mr. and Mrs. Ries have in the Society. Sale of the maps will result in increases in the fund set aside for historical research.

EDNA L. HAYDOCK, *Historian*  
GERTRUDE D. HESS, *Librarian*

## RECENT ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY

- The Society gratefully acknowledges donations from the following persons:
- Mr. and Mrs. William M. Amos*  
Photographs of Friends' School classes, 1908-1914. 19 pieces.
- Mr. Edward Braddock*  
Isaac A. Braddock — Private accounts, 1865-1877. Contains accounts relating to the New Jersey Building, Ms.
- Mrs. William G. Buch*  
de Bles, Arthur. Genuine antique furniture. New York, 1929.  
Moore, N. H. The collector's manual: New York, 1935.  
Wenham, Edward. Collector's guide. New York, 1928.
- Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission*  
Mickle, Isaac. Diary, ed. by P. E. Mackey. 2v. Philadelphia, 1977.
- Mrs. Richard B. Carl*  
Allen, E. F., ed. Lincoln's stories and speeches. New York, n.d.  
Charnwood, Lord. Abraham Lincoln. New York, 1938.  
Lincoln, Abraham. Lincoln's yarns and stories, ed. by A. K. McClure. Philadelphia, n.d.  
Ludwig, Emil. Lincoln, tr. by E. and C. Paul. New York, 1930.  
Selby, Paul. Lincoln's life, stories and speeches. Chicago, c.1902.
- Mrs. Wilbur J. Chamberlin*  
Sloane, Eric. An age of barns. c.1967.  
Collection of Bicentennial memorabilia. 30 pieces.
- Mrs. Robert B. Chew*  
Family Bibles, 1839 and 1855, and the New Testament, 1812. Contain biographical and genealogical manuscript notes pertaining to the Penn family.  
Haddonfield High School diploma issued to Robert B. Chew, June 9, 1905.
- Mr. William C. Coles*  
Memorandum pertaining to the postmasters of Haddonfield. Typescript.
- Mr. William R. Farr*  
Views of Haddonfield and Haddon Hall, England. 8 pieces.
- Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Goettelmann*  
Goettelmann, L. H. History of the West Jersey Society of architects. 1965.  
Old Print Shop. Portfolio. 1964-1965.
- Haddonfield Post Office*  
Postal records, account books, etc., 1900-1927. 14v. Ms.
- Haddonfield Public Library*  
Rauschenberger, D. B. Bibliography of Haddonfield history. 1977.
- Hastings House, Publisher*  
New Jersey: a guide; rev. ed. by Linda Newberry. New York, 1977.
- Mrs. Jesse G. Haydock, Sr.*  
Barrington Business Association. Our town guide. 1976.  
Griscom, L. E. The Historic county of Burlington. 1973.  
— Burlington County and the American Revolution. 1976.  
Old St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church, 1769-1932. Philadelphia, 1932.  
Maps of the Borough of Audubon, 1964, and of Camden County, 1953.  
Views of Haddonfield, including old glass negatives of the Indian King Tavern. 8 pieces.  
Letter from John Clement to Adj. General Peter Hunt *in re* the Gloucester Brigade; April 25, 1809. Photostat of ms.
- Mrs. Robert M. Henderson*  
Postal card view of the Indian King Tavern.
- Lenna I. Hunt Estate*  
Photograph of King's Highway at Potter Street; ca. early 1900's.
- Mr. Roy J. King*  
Marion, J. F. Bicentennial city: walking tours of historical Philadelphia. Philadelphia, 1974.
- Mrs. David S. Lenhart*  
Scrapbook about Col. Jesse E. Peyton, primarily concerning his association with the Centennial Exposition held in Philadelphia in 1876.

## RECENT ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY

*Mr. Richard L. Magnell*

Dickens, Charles. *Adventures of Oliver Twist*. New York, n.d.  
—All the year round; v.6-10. London, 1861-1864.

*Miss Virginia Marshall*

Quaker History, v.64-65, 1975-1976.

*Mrs. Melinda McGough*

Samuel Sloan: three stick style houses, 1976. Xerox of thesis.

*Mr. and Mrs. William L. Moody*

Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, Landmarks folder, Camden, 1976.

*Moorestown Historical Society*

Glimpse of Moorestown, 1904-5. Moorestown, 1976.

*Miss Eleanor Shinn*

Re-Union Society of the 25d Regiment of New Jersey Volunteers. History. Philadelphia, 1890.

*South Jersey Treasure Hunters Club*

South Jersey Treasure Hunters Club, Newsletter, 1976-1977.

*Mr. Herbert S. Stepler*

Surveyor's Association of New Jersey. Proceedings, 1870. Copy. Map of Atlantic County, n.d.

*Mrs. Robert Stier*

Enoch Clement's Post Office letterbook, 1856-1845. Ms.  
U.S. Postmaster General, Appointment of Enoch Clement as postmaster of Haddonfield, January 8, 1856. Ms.

*Mrs. Beatrice S. Stuekert*

The Batsto citizens gazette, Summer-fall 1977 issue.

*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Tatem*

Correspondence between Mrs. J. Fithian Tatem and Ralph J. Hall, missionary in Albuquerque, N.M., 1928-1951, and miscellaneous documents *in re* the Missionary Society of the First Presbyterian Church, Haddonfield, ca. 150 pieces Ms. and printed.

Receipted bills — Tatem family accounts with Haddonfield merchants, 1873-1935, ca. 50 pieces. Ms.

*Mrs. Robert M. Tatem*

Haddonfield: Its life with railroads, 1854-1976. An original manuscript by Mrs. Tatem.

*Eleanor Trend Estate*

Collection of interesting volumes including Arrowsmith's *Atlas of ancient geography*, 1844; a manuscript copy of Titian Ramsay Peale's *Journal of the U.S.S. Vincennes*, 1841; and of special value to Haddonfield history miscellaneous publications pertaining to St. John's Academy which was conducted by three Episcopal clergymen, Rev. Theophilus M. Reilly, Rev. William M. Reilly and Rev. Edward M. Reilly; 1866-1905, ca. 70 pieces.

*Mrs. Raymond T. Venables*

Photographs of Haddonfield scenes; ca. 1940's, 48 pieces.

*Mrs. George B. Whitten*

Miscellaneous newspaper clippings pertaining to local history, ca. 25 pieces.

*Benjamin T. Wood Estate*

Collection of old and rare books, manuscripts and photographs including and 1801 edition of Thomas Jefferson's *Notes on the state of Virginia*; J. Bartlett's *A gentleman farmer's repository*, 5d ed., 1775; Jedediah Morse's *American geography*, 1796; copies of the will of Jehu Wood, January 25, 1783, and of Jeremiah Wood's diary, 1806; and photographs of 109 West Main Street, Haddonfield, 20 pieces.

*Mr. John S. Wood*

Collection of pamphlets pertaining to "Dial-A-Ride," 14 pieces.

*Mr. Robert W. Yarrington*

Blackwood, Frances. *Once upon a time* — a cookbook. Pitman, 1976.  
Timmins, R. H. and W. D. *The great cow chase*, 1977.

### TAPE RECORDINGS

Recollections of properties along King's Highway by Mr. Edward Braddock, Mr. Howard Y. Griffith, Mrs. Jesse G. Haydock, Sr., Mr. Jesse G. Haydock, Jr., and Mrs. David S. Lenhart, 5 tapes.

The story of the Loving Service of Haddonfield by Miss Helen Twitchell.

October, 1977

**ACQUISITIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS**  
**July, 1976, through October, 1977**

- Mr. and Mrs. Albert T. Bauer (Elinor Reilly Trend Estate)*  
Old sewing machine. Willcox & Gibbs, March 9, 1922.  
Old lard kettle, with label "Henry Burkhardt Packing Co."  
Fourteen quart kettle.
- Mrs. Robert H. Birdsall*  
Blanket, dated 1821.
- Mrs. Wilbur Chamberlin*  
Old Pepsi-cola bottle.  
Four small flags — all Bicentennial memorabilia.
- Mrs. Robert B. Chew*  
Bird-cage tilt-top walnut table, 18th century.  
Five daguerrotype photographs.  
Framed portrait of a woman.  
Framed certificate of Elizabeth Chew's gift to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.  
Framed sampler, dated 1810.
- Mrs. Reuben Dobbs*  
Old lard press.
- Mrs. Alfred E. Driscoll*  
Iron door lock, 18th century.  
Spectacles worn by Elizabeth H. Hitchner Eastlack, (1832-1900).
- Mrs. Jane E. Dunphey*  
Wedding dress, veil, garters and going-away dress worn in 1938 by her mother.
- Mrs. James Edwards*  
Old grindstone operated by foot pedals.
- Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Goettelmann*  
Old two-piece cast iron shoemaker's last.  
One dozen old leather heel tacks.  
Old pocket balance scale (0 to 25 lbs.), made in Germany.  
Two wool bathing suits, c. 1920.  
Brownie Eastman box camera, c. 1925.  
Three butter spreaders (for use in Greenfield Hall).
- Mr. Louis H. Goettelmann, II*  
Three new type reflector bulbs for case room.
- Mrs. Robert M. Henderson*  
Box of very old clothes.  
Old watch, stick pins, cuff links, etc.  
Two old tire gages.  
Marble door-stop from the Reilly Academy in Haddonfield.  
Pair silk curtains.
- Mr. and Mrs. Ellwood E. Hess*  
Large circular dish or charger in Staffordshire pottery, blue willow pattern.
- Mrs. Edward E. Krauss, Jr.*  
Old, blue pattern china dish, with a lion and scroll on bottom.
- Mr. William H. Laudenslager*  
Ice saw.  
Old scythe.  
Spirit level.

**ACQUISITIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS**  
**July, 1976, through October, 1977**

*Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Magnell*

Framed oil painting of Evans Mill, signed by W. H. Crowell, a cousin of Eleanor Magnell.

*Mrs. A. M. K. Maldeis*

Old "Schoenhut" doll with clothing.

*Mr. L. E. Moody*

Silver pitcher (for use in Greenfield Hall).

*Miss Blandena Ogle*

Three "sample" bottles made of red clay by the William Wingender Pottery, formerly on Lake Street.

*Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Pearson*

Fragments found in 1967 when an excavation was made:

Slipware, clay pottery, china, bottles, jugs, etc.

Sections of wall paper from the Gill Summer Home.

China plates, tea cups and saucers (for use at Greenfield Hall).

Old black beaded dress and bonnet.

Small black/green parasol, which belonged to Mrs. Pearson's mother.

White kid mittens.

Satin and lace corset cover.

Metal-mesh bag.

Six commemorative plates, Historical Society.

*Mrs. John G. Ries*

Wood framed Currier & Ives print, "The Evening Prayer."

*Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Shaffer*

Embroidered sampler of the Samuel Mickle (Hip Roof) House, No. 2 of 300.  
(No. 1, given to the Library of Congress.)

*Mr. David L. Stackhouse*

Federal type card table with two tops.

*Mrs. Beatrice S. Stuckert*

Two pairs of women's shoes, c. 1890.

*Mrs. Ralph W. Wescott*

Old cut-steel beaded evening bag.

*The Estate of Benjamin T. Wood*

One pair of bisque figurines, boy and girl in 18th century costumes.

French porcelain bowl or bread tray, dated 1781.

Githens table. A 19th century square table made by Charles Githens with wood from the yew trees, with boxwood inlays, from the Elizabeth Haddon estate on Wood Lane, which Mr. Wood purchased from the widow of cabinet-maker Githens.

Gentlemen's antique gold pocket watch, key wind, with etched landscape with house and church. This watch was purchased by Benjamin B. Thomas in 1855 and is presented to the Historical Society (1976) by his grandson, Benjamin Thomas Wood.

Submitted by the Acquisitions Committee

Mrs. Louis H. Goettelmann, *Chairperson*

Miss Helena V. Stevenson

John S. Wood, Jr.

Ms. Doris Worth

## A NOTEWORTHY GIFT TO GREENFIELD HALL

An outstanding birdcage, tilt-top walnut table, the gift of Mrs. Robert B. Chew, has been a prized possession of her husband's family for more than two centuries. This table, ca. 1770, in the best Philadelphia style, belonged to the Penn-Chew family. Traditionally, it was bequeathed to the eldest son in each generation. It came to New Jersey when members of that family fled from Philadelphia during the occupation of the city during 1778 and 1779.

Historically, this graceful table is in the best of company, standing between the Elizabeth Haddon table and mirror in the front half of the double parlor and the Kay chest-on-chest on the rear wall.

At the time she gave the table, Mrs. Chew also made gifts of two Penn family Bibles, an 1810 sampler, several daguerrotypes, a framed portrait, a framed certificate and Mr. Robert Chew's 1905 diploma from the Haddonfield High School. Mr. Chew was one of five boys and one girl in the first graduating class from the high school.

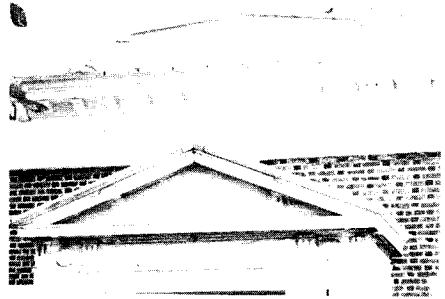
## "COME TO TEA"—FEBRUARY 28TH

The Woman's Committee extends a cordial invitation to all members and their friends to "Come to Tea"—a Spring Tea—February 28th at 2:00 P.M.

Eleanor Vail has promised to attend and will talk on a topic of timely interest.

A donation of \$3.00 is requested, but what the Woman's Committee would really prefer is an item — antique or new — suitable for the Auction at the June Historic Village Fair.

Bring an auctionable gift — but do come to the Spring Tea.



## A LIBRARY MILESTONE

Did you know that for many years the Historical Society and the Public Library shared the present public library building?

The ground on which the library now stands was given by Rebecca and Sarah Nicholson, who lived in the John Estaugh Hopkins House just across the street, for the express purpose of building a permanent home for the town library. A town-wide fund-raising drive was successfully conducted by public-spirited citizens and the cornerstone was laid on October 27, 1917.

Because the library and the Historical Society were growing much faster than anyone had anticipated, space soon became a problem. The Historical Society relinquished its interest in the library building in 1937, at which time it moved into its own building at 231 Kings Highway East.

These thoughts come to mind as the public library begins its celebration of 175 years of continuous library service in Haddonfield.

The Historical Society of Haddonfield salutes the Haddonfield Public Library during this significant anniversary year.

## CHRISTMAS DOORWAYS

A special "Thank You" to Edith and Harry Atkinson for the beautifully decorated doorways of *Greenfield Hall* and the *Samuel Mickle (Hip Roof) House*. Thanks to their special talent, our headquarters presented a gala appearance on the Christmas scene in Haddonfield.

## Historical Society of Haddonfield

Haddonfield, New Jersey

Non-Profit Organization

U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**

PERMIT No. 118  
Haddonfield, N. J.

### ISAAC MICKLE DIARY (cont. from page 1)

Most likely his fascination with politics led him to choose law as a career — a decision which did not please either his mother or his uncle. However, John Mickle arranged for his nephew to study law under the noted Philadelphia attorney, John Page.

Isaac's journal began at age 14 and continued with only one major interruption until he was 22. The entries reflect the evolution of the boy to the man, the moving away from the family influence to establishing a pattern of living of his own. The diary traces the relaxing of the young boy's rigid code of behavior, his sense of duty, pride and propriety, to his acceptance of himself as an adult at home in society, politics and journalism.

At the same time, the diary entries reflect not only Isaac's — but the entire family's — interest in the political events taking place in New Jersey and in Washington. The decades of the 1830's and the 1940's were among the most exciting in our history, and it is not surprising that Isaac responded to these influences. What is surprising is that despite his involvement, Isaac managed to continue his studies and in passing his examination made what the president of the bar examination board felt was one of the best presentations he had ever heard.

Isaac's last journal entry was made in March 30, 1845. The next ten years of

his life had moments of intense happiness, but continuing deterioration of his health (he also had TB), the tragic death of his two sons during a scarlet fever epidemic and financial setbacks eroded both his strength and his spirit. At the time of his death, the promise remained, but one may wonder if that promise would have been entirely fulfilled had Isaac lived longer.

Isaac's diaries remained in the family until they were presented to the Camden County Historical Society by his granddaughter, Marjorie H. Williamson. Recognizing how true a reflection of the political and social life of southern New Jersey the diary was, the Board of the Camden County Historical Society commissioned Philip E. Mackey to edit Isaac's journals. Mackey who ran a newspaper at age 13 and became a correspondent for the Binghamton (NY) *Sun* at 16, was a happy choice. Through his study of American history Mackey was well aware of the many forces at work in the America Isaac Mickle knew and was able to relate the man and his times to the events affecting the nation's future.

Isaac Mickle may be no more than a vaguely familiar name to many, but as Dr. Mackey will describe him and his accomplishments at the Candlelight Dinner, it will be possible to understand why the eulogy called Isaac Mickle "a gentleman of much promise."